



03500.015864

PATENT APPLICATION

2824
#12/Election
5/9/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
TAKASHI IKEDA) Examiner: VanThu Nguyen
Application No.: 09/973,057) Group Art Unit: 2824.
Filed: October 10, 2001)
For: MAGNETORESISTIVE)
ELEMENT, AND MAGNETIC)
MEMORY USING THE SAME) May 1, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 1, 2003, imposing an election requirement in the above-identified application.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged the existence of 9 patentably distinct species:

Species I: Claims 1 and 2;

Species II: Claims 1 and 3;

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

May 1, 2003
(Date of Deposit)

Jason M. Okun

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature

May 1, 2003

Date of Signature